

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

In response to the amendment filed 30 June 2008 wherein applicant amends claims 1-19, adds new claims 20-27 and claims 1-27 are pending in this application.

Reasons for Allowance

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art does not disclose nor teach according to claims 1 and 21 a dynamic current collector system for a slot car track system comprising: a track having at least one guide groove; a plurality of electroconductive tracks positioned on opposite sides of the guide groove; and a plurality of electroconductive elements positioned on opposite sides of a guide follower flange that at the lower front of a toy vehicle and extends into the guide groove, wherein the electroconductive tracks are biased against the current collector elements by a plurality of elastic elements so as to provide for dynamic electrical contact between the plurality of electroconductive tracks and the plurality of current collector elements as the vehicle moves along the guide follower in the guide groove. The closest prior art to Rudell discloses a slot and track system comprising two inverted channels 45 and 51 formed on opposite sides of a wide channel 48, and a central channel 24 positioned within the wide channel 48. The slots 10, 12 are defined by the outer lateral sides of the central channel 24 and the outer lateral sides of the inverted channels 45 and 51. The electrical strip conductors 40 and 42 are positioned on the outer lateral sides of the inverted channels 45, 51 and central channel 24, respectively. A slot post 52 extends downward from a bottom of the car and into one of the slots

10, 12 defined by the outer lateral sides of the channels 45, 51 and 24. The wiper members 60 and 61 are provided on opposite sides of a distal end of the slot post 52 to maintain electrical contact with the strip conductors 40, 42 and provide electrical power to the car. Rudell fails to the electroconductive tracks are biased against the current collector elements by a plurality of elastic elements so as to provide for dynamic electrical contact between the plurality of electroconductive tracks and the plurality of current collector elements as the vehicle moves along the guide follower in the guide groove. Claims 2-20 and 22-27 are allowed through there dependency.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALEX P. RADA whose telephone number is (571)272-4452. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 09:00-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571-272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/John M Hotaling II/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3714

/A. P. R./
Examiner, Art Unit 3714